

4th January 2021

In light of the government's revised plan for the staggered return of pupils to school this term, we have revised our plans. The new plan is different from what was outlined to you before Christmas.

From January 5th to January 8th only vulnerable pupils and those in key worker families will attend the school. Pupils who are expected to be at school from 5th January, will be emailed shortly and will need to follow the routine already in place, such as the arrival and finish time, line-up places, and enter and exit from the allocated gates. Please note that following the updated guidance, we have amended our list of pupils who need to attend and if you do not receive a separate email today, your child should stay at home and continue with remote learning.

Please could **all pupils attending school from 5th January bring in a pair of earphones or headphones for use to access their remote learning on a school device.** Year 11 pupils that are not in the above groups are now expected to learn remotely at home and return to school from 11th January as normal. From January 18th onwards all year groups are expected to attend the school as normal. Please note that this information is subject to change as the government change their advice.

From Tuesday 5th January, all learning will take place through Teams which can be downloaded to any device including mobile phones. Pupils will need to use their Microsoft 365 emails to access their Teams classrooms. All lessons will start live, with pupils expected to click on their lesson invite link to join their class and their teacher in live learning at the appointed time of that period in the timetable. All year groups will follow their normal timetable with the timing of lessons as before the Christmas break. Registers will be taken at the start of each lesson and if pupils are not present in live lessons parents/carers will be contacted, so that learning and technical support can be offered. If technical issues prevent a live lesson for any reason, the lesson materials will be placed in the lesson Teams folders at the time of the lesson. Lessons might be recorded only for instructional and safeguarding purposes.

If pupils have any issues accessing their live lessons or their Teams folders, please send an email to homeworkGES@midlandat.co.uk so that we can offer technical and/or work support. It is vital that pupils engage in learning to maintain their academic progress. I will keep you informed of any further developments in what is a rapid and ever changing picture. Thank you for your support.



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Principal

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